

JAMES CHAMBERS PRYOR, Rear Admiral, MC, USN

James Chambers Pryor was born at Winchester, Tennessee, March 13, 1871.

He was the son of James Jones Pryor and Nancy Brazelton Pryor. On both sides Admiral Pryor's ancestors were pioneer settlers of Tennessee. Their interests were given to the upbuilding of the new commonwealth, fighting Indians, establishing a bank and other successful enterprises, owning large plantations and in every way promoting their State's progress.

Admiral Pryor was the eldest of eleven children. His mother taught him until his tenth year, and he then attended public school in Nashville, Tenn., Montgomery Bell Academy, the University of Nashville, Harvard University, and received his medical degree from Vanderbilt University. He had post-graduate work at Johns Hopkins University, and studied in clinics in New York, London, Paris, and Vienna.

He entered the Navy as an assistant surgeon in February, 1897, and filled many important tours of duty at the Naval Hospitals of New York, Mare Island, Pensacola, Yokohama, and Washington, and had extensive duty in the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. This duty was interspersed with tours of sea duty in the Spanish-American War; the fall of Ciudad Bolivar, Venezuela; and he was brigade surgeon of the naval forces on shore during the occupation of Vera Cruz in 1914.

In 1911 he was made head of the Department of Hygiene of the Naval Medical School. During this tour of duty, Johns Hopkins University arranged a special course in hygiene for him, and later he was the first graduate in its School of Hygiene. During World War I, while head of the Department of Hygiene at the Naval Medical School, he wrote the "Naval Hygiene" which became the standard text of naval hygiene in the U.S. Navy, and was adopted by England,

France and other countries for Naval Hygiene principles. He gave lecture courses at George Washington University and Johns Hopkins University in Hygiene. He wrote for the Encyclopedia Britannica its article on Medical Service in the U.S. Navy.

Admiral Pryor was President of the Association of Military Surgeons, a fellow of the American College of Surgeons, Presidential delegate to the Sixth International Congress on Military Medicine at the Hague.

He died September 8, 1947.